

JANUARY 20, 2005 SPECIAL MEETING – ACT 537 AMENDMENTS:

The Mount Joy Township Board of Supervisors met this date, as publicly advertised, at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Municipal Building, 902 Hoffman Home Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325, for a meeting to discuss amendments to the Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan. Board Chairman James Waybright presided with the following others in attendance: Supervisors William Chantelau, George Scott, Harold Kirschner, and Samuel Dayhoff; Solicitor Walton V. Davis; S.E.O. Gil Picarelli; and Brenda Constable, Secretary.

Others in attendance were: Jerry Althoff representing the Planning Commission; and Rick Klein representing The Links At Gettysburg.

Public Comment: None was given.

Proposed Amendments:

Mr. Waybright noted that the PA Department of Environmental Protection reviewed the Township's Act 537 Official Plan, adopted November 20, 2003, and determined that the Plan fails to provide assurance of proper operation and maintenance of onlot sewage disposal systems in the township. They suggest that the Township "seriously consider" adopting an onlot management ordinance. A sample ordinance is already included in the Act 537 Plan, marked as "Appendix A-12".

Mr. Picarelli, S.E.O. gave an overview of what such an ordinance would do, which is to require citizens to pump their septic tanks on a regular basis. It would be up to the Township to decide how and when they would want this done, and at what level, e.g. determined by size of tank or age of tank; repairs could be recommended, etc. One option would be to have tanks pumped every three or four years, possibly dividing the Township into three districts and then do one district per year on a rotating basis. Districts could be divided with one area that has the most problematic systems and then do them the first year, and so on. Discussion was held on bidding out the service; however, the resident would not have to use that hauler if they did not want to. Another option would be to have the secretary send out letters to citizens informing them that their tanks need pumped, and then contact the successful bidder giving them a list of citizens that would need pumped in that particular year. The hauler would then be responsible to send letters to the citizens letting them know what the costs would be, etc. The hauler would need to send a report to the Township indicating where they are dumping the waste.

Mr. Davis pointed out the DEP can not require this management unless they could prove a malfunctioning system. He added that the only townships that currently have such a system in place are ones that have a bad or heavy used area in their township and the requirement is for those areas only, not necessarily the entire township. Mr. Chantelau questioned how difficult it would be to manage this and what the cost would be to the citizens. Mr. Picarelli stated that the cost is approximately \$75 to \$100 once every three years. He added that the administrative expense could be included in the SEO reimbursement, including the secretary's time.

Mr. Dayhoff moved, seconded by Mr. Chantelau, to remove Appendix A-12 Sample Ordinance from the Act 537 Plan, go with the idea of dividing the Township into districts requiring pumping every three or four years on a rotating basis. At this time, a statement as to what the Township is going to do is to be submitted to DEP, prepared by Mr. Davis with the assistance of Mr. Picarelli. Discussion: Mr. Chantelau noted that this would be beneficial and is needed, because of concern about the health and safety of the

Township. He also suggested that Mr. Picarelli prepare a article for the next Township Newsletter in order to educate the citizens of this process. It was also noted that after the initial statement is submitted to DEP, the Supervisors would then work on preparing an Management Ordinance. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Dayhoff, to also include the 1999 Gannett Fleming Sanitary Sewer Service Evaluation to the Act 537 Plan, addressing the future expansion of the White Run Regional Municipal Authority system to the northwest portion of Route 15. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Dayhoff moved, seconded by Mr. Scott to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda J. Constable
Secretary

DRAFT